

Ashuelot River Local Advisory Committee

Washington Lempster Marlow Gilsum Sullivan Surry Keene Swanzey Winchester Hinsdale

July 25, 2006

The Honorable David Currier,
Chair Shoreland Protection Study Commission
Legislative Office Building Room 305
Concord, NH 03301

Dear Representative Currier:

The Ashuelot River Local Advisory Committee has been attempting to follow the progress of the Shoreland Protection Study Commission. We realize we may not be current on the latest discussions of the committee, but would like to offer our support for the following proposals.

- All rivers in the RMPP should be included under the CSPA, and RSA 483-B:20 should be repealed.
- The Strahler stream order methodology should be fully implemented to include both perennial and intermittent streams.
- RSA 483-B:4XVI(c) should be amended to include rivers as determined from the National Hydrography Database being developed by UNH and DES.
- Establish a 75 foot no-disturb buffer for second order or higher streams; a 50 foot no-disturb buffer for all perennial first order streams.
- Remove the basal area measurement in the wetland buffer zone and establish either a 75 ft "no cut" zone allowing for a 6 ft wide unpaved meandering path to the water, OR establish a workable point system to maintain minimum vegetation in the wetland buffer zone.
- Limit impervious cover to 10% for each lot to protect water quality.
- A permit process similar to wetlands permitting should be considered, providing funds that could be used for better enforcement and education.

We will continue to follow the progress of the Study Committee and look forward to their recommendations.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Skuly
Chairman

cc: S. Couture